THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Government has laid down Route Dispersal Guidelines with a view to achieve better regulation of air transport services taking into account the need for air transport services of different regions of the country. Subject to these guidelines, airlines are free to provide air services to any place depending upon the traffic demand and commercial viability.

Air India's scheme for promotion of tourism

†2117. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any plan has been started in collaboration with Air India for attracting Indian tourists by many countries;

(b) if so, the details of the plan; and

(c) the extent of profit likely to be earned by Government from this Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Air India has entered into an alliance with Tourism Malaysia and Singapore Tourism Board to promote business on Singapore and Kuala Lumpur sectors (which is valid till 31 December, 2005) to attract the outgoing Indian tourists.

(c) Many tangible and intangible benefits would accure to the aviation traval & tourism industry which cannot be quantified.

Improvement of security at Airports

2118. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ordered certain stern security measures to improve safety and security at Indian airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether these additional measures will cause inconvenience to the passengers and delays in passenger handling at the airports?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.